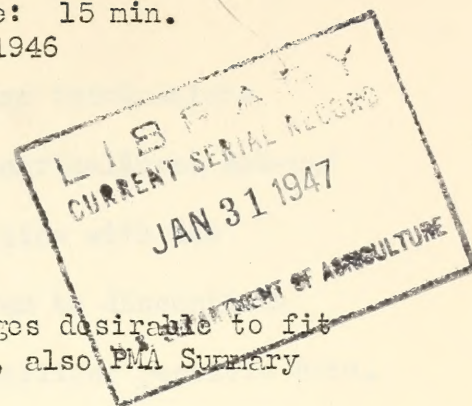


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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Production and Marketing Admin.
Information Service
821 Market Street, Room 609
San Francisco, California
Western Area

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YOUR FAMILY'S FOOD
(Weekly Script No. 134)

Resume

(Time all scripts in advance. Suggest you make any changes desirable to fit script to local picture. News releases from this office, also PMA Summary are good sources of additional material.)

SUBJECT: War Food Orders

PARTICIPANTS: Announcer
PMA

BANGING OF GAVEL

ANNOUNCER: Your Family's Food! This is YOUR program, brought to you by the United States Department of Agriculture....YOUR program to keep you up to date on the many factors that influence YOUR food supply.

And the man who has the answers to your questions....and nine.... is your Production and Marketing Administration representative, Mr. _____. And now, _____ what takes top billing on our program today?

PMA: I believe the recent large numbers of War Food order cancellations deserve some attention and I'd like to review these first. And then we can take a look at the few orders which still remain.

ANNOUNCER: Good enough. I guess there have been some changes made lately.

PMA: Well, _____ you may know--or possibly you don't--that more than 170 War Food Orders were issued since the beginning of the war. These orders were necessary as war emergency measures to insure equitable distribution of scarce commodities, to conserve food, to fulfill military requirements, export requirements to
--and/meet other needs of our war-time economy.

ANNOUNCER: Then the increasing number of War Food Order terminations simply reflects a return to a more normal agricultural set-up?

PMA: That's right. These cancellations are in line with the Department of Agriculture's over-all program to discontinue controls on agricultural products at the earliest possible date. And the Department's actions, of course, are in line with President Truman's announced policy of relaxing all war-time government regulations and restrictions as rapidly as possible.

ANNOUNCER: Out of these 170 War Food Orders you said were issued, how many are left?

PMA: Just 25. But before we review these remaining orders, I'd like to mention some of the more important cancellations which have been made in the past two weeks.

ANNOUNCER: I remember we did review some of these in our program last week... Let's see, there was the cancellation of the order controlling corn and feed grains...and another termination lifting restrictions on protein meal and soybeans....

PMA: Right. And a very important cancellation removed controls on fats and oils--both edible and inedible. The only restrictions left on such commodities concern the sale and use of peanuts from the 1945 crop--and imports of fats and oils.

ANNOUNCER: And you say there have been a number of new War Food Order cancellations since?

PMA: Yes, indeed. Just last week, the Department of Agriculture announced the revocation of 16 War Food Orders covering a broad range of commodities and functions.

ANNCR: What were some of them, _____?

PMA: One, of particular interest to the consumer, removed the restrictions on the manufacture and distribution of bakery products. The War Food Order among other things, provided for the enrichment of white bread and rolls. Now, although the order has been revoked, it is expected that millers will voluntarily continue to enrich white flour.

ANNCR: What were some of the other 16 cancellations?

PMA: I won't have time to list them all, but I'll run over some of general interest. To start with, several orders were terminated which had governed the distribution of certain commodities. Restrictions were lifted on the distribution of black and white pepper and nutmeg, certain types of tobacco, cocoa beans, and imported fish. Then, three other cancellations eliminated set-aside requirements on canned and processed fruits and vegetables, dried skim milk and evaporated milk for government purchase.

ANNCR: I suppose these particular set-asides are no longer needed because of reduced military requirements?

PMA: Yes...and the evaporated milk also was purchased for famine relief abroad. Now, another set of War Food Orders revoked last week delegated authority to the OPA with respect to rationing of processed foods, fats, oils, and cheese, meats, and slaughter controls.

ANNCR: You mean these orders are outdated now?

PMA: Well, with the lifting of price controls on these commodities, the delegations of authority became inapplicable.

ANNCR: You mentioned processed foods...does that include sugar, too?

PMA: No, sugars, syrups and molasses are still scarce and thus are under pretty tight regulation--although the War Food order restricting the use of honey in manufactured products has been revoked. And this might be as good a time as any to review the list of orders still in effect.

ANNCR: O.K. by me....you say there're 25 of them?

PMA: Right...and the sugar orders are pretty important. One of them concerns raw sugar--which means all crystalline and liquid sugar derived from sugarcane or sugar beets. The order establishes an allotment system to make sure that the distribution of raw sugar to refiners is equitable.

ANNCR: Well, that seems fair...I guess we're all aware of the fact that sugar is still in short supply.

PMA: Yes--and that accounts for another War Food Order which delegates authority to OPA for the rationing of sugar. The average consumer is more aware of sugar rationing than almost any other still existing war food measure.

ANNCR: In other words, it affects him directly whereas other orders pertain more to the producer or distributor.

PMA: That's more or less it--although almost all of the War Food orders have an ultimate effect on the consumer. There's another order dealing with sugar rationing which--although still on the books--has been suspended.

ANNCR: And that is...?

PMA: One which sets up a quota for deliveries of refined sugar to authorized purchasers. This order was intended to spread the limited supply of refined sugar over civilian needs, military requirements and export requirements.

ANNCR: How about the molasses you mentioned earlier?

PMA: That commodity very definitely is regulated as production of most edible molasses is limited. Furthermore, this particular War Food Order has recently been amended to impose more stringent controls on sugarcane diverted to the production of molasses--- and syrups as well. This move is expected to recover about 100 thousand tons more sugar from this year's crop.

ANNCR: Well, I guess we've covered the sweetening situation rather thoroughly...now what about other categories of foods?

PMA: I might as well get to the grain orders since they have an important place in the list. There were quite a few of them originally, but recent cancellations--as I brought out before-- have reduced their numbers.

ANNCR: I remember you said the War Food Order on bakery products had been terminated.

PMA: Yes, that's the latest grain order cancellation. The orders still left are those on rice set-asides, the use of malt in malt beverages, the use of grain in distilled products, and on wheat and flour.

ANNCR: I can understand the reason for rice regulations, all right. There's still a shortage, isn't there?

PMA: There is--and this order is intended to insure that government agencies have enough rice for export to United States territories-- and also to see that people here in this country get a fair share.

ANNCR: Now, coming to the beverage department....

PMA: The amount of malt in malt beverages is still limited so that we will have enough of this product for food use--and also for use in industrial alcohol production. The manufacture of liquors distilled from grain is likewise still under control in order to save our grain supply for essential military, civilian and export purposes.

AMHCR: That seems sensible to me. Now what about the last remaining grain order--the one on wheat and flour?

PMA: That one limits the use of milling quality wheat in the manufacture of mixed feed to 40 percent of the amount used previously. Millers, also, with some exceptions, are permitted to produce only 85 percent of the average monthly supply of flour distributed for domestic use. This order, which applies to millers, mixed food manufacturers, food manufacturers and distributors, is, like the others, intended to conserve our supply of wheat and flour for home use and for export.

AMHCR: Are there any other major food categories in which War Food orders are still operating?

PMA: Yes, we still have regulations on dairy products; we have a butter set-aside requirement in order to supply war agencies; we have a cheddar cheese set-aside, an order providing for fair distribution of fluid milk and cream, and another regulation limiting the amount of milk fat content in cream to 19 percent.

AMHCR: Do you have any other remaining War Food Orders you think are worthwhile mentioning, now?

PMA: Well, I can run over a few miscellaneous ones briefly. There is still a control on dried fruits which prevents converting them into beverages, syrups and other such products.

ANNCR: In other words, dried fruit must remain dried fruit.

PMA: Just so--the order is intended to assure the government of an adequate supply of these products. Then there is a set-aside order on canned fish and shellfish for government use, regulations on shipping walnuts, and restrictions on the purchase, sale and use of peanuts.

ANNCR: That's quite a list of commodities, if you ask me.

PMA: It's not as long as it sounds--and the list is getting shorter all the time. So here are a few more. The order on livestock and meats is still in effect which provides exemptions from slaughtering limitations through a certification system. However, the lifting of slaughter controls by OPA removes the main purpose of the order and slaughterers may apply for withdrawal of certification if they wish.

ANNCR: It's just occurred to me that all the War Food Orders in existence at one time must have required a lot of administrative work.

PMA: They did, indeed. But some of the War Food orders issued delegated authority to other government agencies to carry out the war-time measures. Such an order was the one handing over to OPA the administration of food rationing both in this country and in United States territorial possessions. Then authority on matters pertaining to food priorities and their enforcement was delegated to the Production and Marketing Administration.

ANNCR: You mean the Production and Marketing Administration was empowered to issue priorities for any food and also had the authority to prosecute any violations of these orders?

PMA: That's a nutshell version of it. Now there's one other War Food Order which deals with priorities--and I think some of our listeners would be interested in it. This order gives veterans of world war two preference in purchasing new farm machinery. Any veteran of the last war who owns and operates a farm or operates a farm as a tenant, or who is a sharecropper, may apply for a veteran's preference certificate for any item of new farm machinery and equipment--except repair parts.

ANNCR: That's certainly a fair and just provision.

PMA: However, in applying for preference, the veteran must show urgent need for the equipment and that he has been unable to obtain either new or used machinery. He must also show that the supplying of new equipment will tend to increase production of food to meet military and civilian needs.

ANNCR: Well, those requirements shouldn't be too hard to satisfy. Have we just about finished with the list of 25 remaining War Food Orders, _____?

PMA: We have just one more--which deals with food imports. Under this order the importation of certain foods into this country was prohibited--with the exception of food imported from Canada, Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador and from United States possessions.

ANNCR: What kinds of foods were affected by this order?

PMA: A rather large variety of foods came under this control, but generally speaking you could list them as certain kinds of oils, spices, meats, fish, sugars and beans.

ANNCR: Why was this War Food order issued in the first place? I thought we'd been having shortages of a lot of those items?

PMA: So we did....but if there was a shortage of these commodities in this country--you may be sure that the scarcity was more severe on a worldwide basis. Therefore, the order required licenses for importation so that world supplies of scarce items would be distributed on a basis of need.

ANNCR: The supply of some scarce commodities is getting better, isn't it?

PMA: Quite true--and as the situation improves--various items are removed from the import control list. The Department of Agriculture just last week announced that nine additional commodities had been taken off the list, leaving only 60 still under control.

ANNCR: What are these nine commodities?

PMA: As of October 28th, import licenses were no longer required for pepper; nutmeg; mace; argols; tartaric acid; guano; olive oil; edible and inedible ouricury oil; and ouricury nuts and kernels. In addition to lifting controls on these items, import licenses will be more freely granted for in-transit shipments of 11 commodities through the United States to foreign points. These include dried beans and peas, rice, meat, cocoa and oil cake.

ANNCR: Well, from all you've said today, _____ it does seem as though the food situation is looking up a bit.

PMA: And as the world food outlook improves along with our prospects here at home we can expect more and more food controls to be dropped. The few regulating orders that still remain are necessary because they concern foods that are scarce, or deal with certain food imports, or assure that enough commodities will be made available to meet our government's military or export commitments.

ANNCR: And I'm sure there is no objection to that. Our thanks to you, _____, for some of the answers to questions in the minds of the Great American Family. Friends, that was your Production and Marketing Administration representative, _____. YOUR FAMILY'S FOOD will be presented again next week at this same time. This broadcast, a public service feature over station _____, is presented for farm and city listeners in _____. Your announcer has been _____.

